

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 PM-03 ACDA-10

USIA-15 PRS-01 RSC-01 /066 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:HSFOSTER:JC

APPROVED BY PA/M:HSFOSTER

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

S/AJ, EUR, PM, ACDA, PA, USIA

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P R 292139Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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UNCLAS STATE 263268

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: US, PINT, PARM, XG

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR CSCE

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. THURSDAY FRIDAY FRONT PAGES WERE MOSTLY DOMESTIC; THURSDAY NYTIMES FRONTPAGED CONGRESSIONAL CRITICISM OF ARMS PACT MOUNTS; FRIDAY BALTSUN FRONTPAGES MOSCOW STORY, GUNS OR BUTTER DEBATE FACES SOVIET FACTIONS. COMMENT ON ARMS ACCORD.
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1A. THURSDAY INSIDE BALTSUN HAD CAIRO REUTERS, ARABS LINK US PERSIAN GULF NAVAL VISIT TO OIL CRISIS. WASHPOST HAD SATELLITE VERIFICATION ROLE MAY BE REDUCED; ALSO NESSEN GIVES NIXON SUBSTANTIAL CREDIT FOR ARMS ACCORD. FRIDAY

NYTIMES HAS SOVIET UNEASY AT ARMS PACT CRITICISM, ALSO

SOVIET JOINS GENEVA ACCORD TO EASE EMIGRATION; WASHPOST HAS POLITBURO APPROVES VLADIVOSTOK RESULTS, ALSO LOCKHEED PROPOSES JOINT LOCKHEED-RUSSIAN STUDY OF AEROFLOT'S FUTURE NEEDS.

2. SATELLITES. THURSDAY WASHPOST GETLER REPORTED ARMS ACCORD ALLOWS SUCH HIGH LEVELS OF MIRVS THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF PICTURE-TAKING SATELLITES MAY BE REDUCED BECAUSE NO ONE WILL NEED TO CHEAT, GETLER ADDING IT DOESN'T MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE, AT LEAST MILITARILY, IF EITHER SIDE TRIED TO CHEAT BY HIDING AN EXTRA 100 MISSILES, ALTHOUGH POLITICALLY SUCH CHEATING COULD DESTROY DETENTE. GETLER SAYS WILL BE SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE MIRV VERIFICATION PROBLEM BECOMES TROUBLESOME SINCE IT WILL TAKE TIME TO BUILD UP TO NEW LIMITS AND IN MEANWHILE THERE WILL BE MORE DISCUSSIONS SEEKING TO ACHIEVE MUTUAL REDUCTIONS OF MIRVS. GETLER ADDS VERIFICATION CONTINUES TO BE A VITAL CONCERN OF BOTH SIDES, ESPECIALLY AS A REFLECTION OF GOOD FAITH, AND GENEVA NEGOTIATORS ARE EXPECTED TO PRESS FOR SOME RIGID REQUIREMENTS THAT WILL MAKE THE VERIFICATION JOB EASIER, SUCH AS AGREEING TO ASSUME THAT A GENERAL CLASS OF MISSILES IS TO BE MIRVED, AND DEPLOYING MIRVS ONLY IN CERTAIN GEOGRAPHIC AREAS. ACCORDING GETLER, THE PRINCIPAL FEAR ASSOCIATED WITH MIRVS IS THAT THEY COULD CONCEIVABLY ALLOW ONE SIDE TO ACHIEVE A KNOCKOUT SURPRISE FIRST STRIKE AND THIS MAY LEAD US TO BUILD MORE, AND MORE MOBILE, MISSILES SO THAT MORE WARHEADS WOULD SURVIVE AN ATTACK.

3. CONGRESS. THURSDAY NYTIMES GWERTZMAN WASHINGTON REPORTED CRITICISM OF ARMS ACCORD HAS BEGUN TO DEVELOP AND SOME OFFICIALS PREDICT IT MAY PROVOKE A FIGHT IN CONGRESS, GWERTZMAN ADDED CRITICISM COMES FROM A LOOSE COALITION OF CRITICS WHO MOSTLY SPOKE OUT IN RESPONSE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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QUESTIONS FROM NEWSME-. AN AIDE TO JACKSON SAID HE WILL HOLD HEARINGS BEFORE HIS ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE AND STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS BELIEVED JACKSON LIKELY TO MAKE THE PACT A POLITICAL ISSUE AGAINST FORD BUT THEY HOPE THAT, ONCE THE ADMINISTRATION HAS A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN THE ACCORD, SUPPORT WILL BE STRENGTHENED. JACKSON SAID HE FEARED THE ACCORD WILL IMPEL US TO BUILD MORE MIRVS TO OFFSET THE SOVIET ADVANTAGE AND THIS WILL COST BILLIONS OF DOLLARS. GWERTZMAN REPORTED NITZE FOUND ACCORD DISAPPOINTING AND SAID ISSUE IS: DOES THIS AGREEMENT RELIEVE US DEFENSE PROBLEM OF MAINTAINING HIGH QUALITY DETERRENTS OF A NUCLEAR WAR IN THE FACE OF THIS SOVIET THREAT. HALSTED OF ARMS CONTROL ASSOCIATION CHARGED ACCORD WILL ACCELERATE A QUALITATIVE ARMS RACE

BECAUSE IT PLACES NO RESTRICTIONS ON NUMBERS OF ACTUAL WARHEADS; ALSO MONDALE SAID HE HAD QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ACCORD, SAYING: REAL TEST IS WHETHER THE AGREEMENT STOPS OR SLOWS ANY STRATEGIC PROGRAM ON EITHER SIDE.

3A. WEDNESDAY WATERTOWN TIMES REPORTED FROM WASHINGTON THAT SEN. BUCKLEY SAID THE NEW ACCORD WILL RECEIVE A FAR MORE THOROUGH GOING-OVER BY CONGRESS THAN PREVIOUS PACTS BECAUSE TOO MANY UNEXPECTED FACTORS HAD BEEN INCLUDED

IN SALT ONE; BUCKLEY ALSO INDICATED HE HAS CONTINUING DOUBTS ABOUT SOVIET SINCERITY RE DISARMAMENT AND EMIGRATION POLICY.

4. COLUMNS. FRIDAY WASHPOST HEADS ALSOP, SALT: FALSE HOPES, ALSOP SAYING MEN LIKE NITZE THINK THROW-WEIGHT IS JUST AS CRUCIAL A FACTOR AS MERE NUMBERS IN SALT, AND IF THIS IS TRUE SALT TWO NEEDS MORE CAREFUL EXAMINATION. ALSOP STRESSES TEST OF DETENTE IS GENERAL PROGRESS TOWARD A MORE PEACEFUL WORLD SITUATION AND NO SUCH PROGRESS WAS MADE AT VLADIVOSTOK BECAUSE NONE WAS MADE ON MIDDLE EAST.

4A. THURSDAY WASHPOST HEADED EVANS NOVAK, SALT: A LIMITED GAIN, COLUMN SAYING THAT ALTHOUGH NEW SALT AGREEMENT IS NOTHING LIKE THE MIRACULOUS BREAKTHROUGH PAINTED BY NESSEN IT IS SATISFACTORY AND SAFE ENOUGH TO GET A PRIVATE BLESSING FROM SOBER CRITIC JAMES SCHLESINGER. COLUMN UNCLASSIFIED

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REPORTS ONE PENTAGON OFFICIAL SAID THE NEW AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNACCEPTABLE A YEAR AGO BUT TODAY WITH PROGRESSIVE WEAKENING OF THE WEST, I WOULD GRAB IT AND RUN. IN DIRECT CONTRAST TO SOVIET FEAR OF AMERICAN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, THIS OFFICIAL FEARS CONGRESSIONAL REFUSAL TO FINANCE COSTLY NEW WEAPONS AND WELCOMES ANY RESTRAINT ON SOVIET MILITARY SPENDING, SAYS COLUMN.

4B. THURSDAY BALTSUN HAS THIMMESCH COLUMN HEADED, ARMS DEAL HAS TOO MANY ESCAPE HATCHES, THIMMESCH SAYING: WHY WAS PACT SIGNED NOW AT VERY FIRST FORD-BREZHNEV MEETING? THIMMESCH SUGGESTS FORD WAS BEDAZZLED BY HEADY ATMOSPHERE OF INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATING, AND ALTHOUGH WE HAVE CEILING ON ROCKETS WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER RUSSIANS MAY NOT HAVE MUCH GREATER THROW-WEIGHT, ALSO THIMMESCH QUERIES VERIFICATION ADEQUACY. IN SAME COLUMN THIMMESCH REPORTS COALITION FOR A DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY, A GROUP OF SELF-STYLED LIBERAL DEMOCRATS, LAST WEEK ISSUED STATEMENT PROPOSING SOME ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE TO MODERNIZE AND BOLSTER OUR NUCLEAR FORCES, THIMMESCH SAYING THIS IS REMINISCENT OF DEMOCRATIC CHARGES AGAINST EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION OF A MISSILE GAP AND NEED FOR BUILDUP.

4C. THURSDAY WASHPOST HAD ZORZA COLUMN STRESSING BREZHNEV'S INTEREST IN KEEPING FORD IN WHITE HOUSE UNTIL 1980, THUS KEEPING JACKSON OUT OF IT, ZORZA SAYING TEN-YEAR FRAMEWORK OF SALT TWO WOULD COMMIT NEXT PRESI-

DENT, EVEN IF JACKSON, TO RIGID ARMS CEILING. THIS, SAYS ZORZA, IS ONE EXPLANATION OF SOVIET CONCESSIONS.

4D. FRIDAY NYTIMES HAS RESTON RAISING SOME TROUBLING QUESTIONS ABOUT CEILING ON ROCKETS WHICH WOULD STILL LEAVE EACH SIDE ENOUGH NUCLEAR POWER TO BLOW UP WORLD, AND LEAVES ROOM FOR ANOTHER EXPENSIVE ROUND OF MISSILE DEVELOPMENT. STILL, RESTON ADDS, PRINCIPLE OF A CEILING HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. RESTON SUGGESTS THAT, WITH KENNEDY AND MONDALE OUT OF 1976 RUNNING JACKSON BECOMES MOST LIKELY CHOICE AND HIS ELECTION COULD MEAN TO MOSCOW A RETURN TO WORST DAYS OF COLD WAR. RESTON CONCLUDES UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT, ONCE ALL THE DETAILS ARE RELEASED AND ISSUES DEBATED, CONGRESS WILL AGREE WITH PRESIDENT THAT ANY LIMITATION IS BETTER THAN NONE.

4E. FRIDAY WASHSTAR CARL ROWAN ADVOCATES SKEPTICISM ABOUT A BREAKTHROUGH AT VLADIVOSTOK, SAYING DOMINANT KREMLIN GROUP HAD TOO MUCH INVESTED IN DETENTE TO PERMIT ITS COLLAPSE, ALSO FORD MUST PROVE HE IS CAPABLE OF HANDLING GREAT AND DELICATE ISSUES, AND IT IS AN ALMOST UNBREAKABLE RULE OF DIPLOMACY THAT TWO CHIEFS MUST NEVER GO TO SUMMIT WITHOUT APPEARING TO ACHIEVE SOMETHING. ROWAN STRESSES WE WON'T KNOW HOW TIGHT A CAP THEY'VE SCREWED ON THE ARMS RACE UNTIL WE SEE FUTURE MILITARY BUDGETS; AND US RUSSIA SEEM DETERMINED TO WASTE TWO TRILLIONS ON ARMS IN 1970S.

5. EDITORIALS. THURSDAY BALTSUN EDITORIAL SAID FORD'S SUMMIT TRIP FULLY JUSTIFIED BY THE BREAKTHROUGH TOWARD SALT TWO AND US SHOULD TAKE LEAD IN TRYING TO AVOID WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC COLLAPSE, MIDEAST CONFLAGRATION, AND DISASTROUS PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONRY. TUESDAY PHILA INQUIRER EDITORIAL SAID ARMS ACCORD IS A VICTORY FOR SANITY, EACH SIDE HAS MADE MAJOR CONCESSIONS; BUT IT SHOULD BE THOROUGHLY EXAMINED. PAPER NOTED CAP ON OVERKILL WILL BE AT AN EVEN HIGHER LEVEL; STILL, FORD BREZHNEV HAVE MADE A GREAT LEAP FORWARD IN DIRECTION OF SURVIVAL. TUESDAY BOSTON GLOBE EDITORIALIZED ON PARITY AS PRELUDE TO PEACE, HOLDING THAT US, IN ALLOWING SOVIETS TO CATCH UP IN ACCURACY AND TECHNOLOGY, LET POWERS COME CLOSER TO PARITY WHICH IN ITSELF COULD HELP END ARMS RACE.

5A. TUESDAY CHICAGO TRIBUNE EDITORIAL SAID AN OPTIMIST

COULD DETECT SOMETHING MORE THAN PLATITUDES AT VLADIVOSTOK AS PARTIES AGREED TO LIMIT AGGREGATE NUMBERS OF MISSILES; BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW THE AGREEMENT WILL BE TRANSLATED INTO FIGURES. SUCH MOTION AS THERE WAS AT VLADIVOSTOK WAS AT LEAST IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

TUESDAY WALL STREET JOURNAL ENTITLED EDITORIAL, A TRIUMPH IN A POKE, SAYING WE SOMEHOW WANT TO SEE THE FINE UNCLASSIFIED

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PRINT, ALSO UNFORTUNATELY THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE AMERICAN PROBLEM IN THROW-WEIGHT WAS EVEN ADDRESSED. HOPE THIS TO BE INCLUDED IN FORTHCOMING DETAILS, BUT IF US HAS SIMPLY IGNORED IT THAT WOULD BE BAD. TUESDAY NYNEWS ENTITLED ITS EDITORIAL, LET'S SEE THE FINE PRINT, THEN WE'LL SEE IF FORD HAS WON CONCESSIONS THAT UNDO THE ADVANTAGES GRANTED USSR IN SALT ONE. THERE ARE A LOT OF QUESTIONS BEFORE WE HAIL A NEW DAY OR USE ACCORD AS EXCUSE FOR CHOPPING DEFENSE BUDGET.

5B. FRIDAY NYTIMES EDITORIAL DENIES ACCORD PUTS A CAP ON ARMS RACE; ON CONTRARY IT WOULD AUTHORIZE BOTH SIDES TO GO AHEAD WITH PLANNED BUILDUPS. CLOSE CONGRESSIONAL SCRUTINY IS REQUIRED; IS SENATE PREPARED TO SETTLE FOR SUCH HIGH CEILINGS ON STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, OR SHOULD AMERICAN LEADERS BE ASKED TO RETURN TO CONFERENCE TABLE TO SEEK MORE MEANINGFUL ARMS CONTROL?

6. MOSCOW STORIES. FRIDAY NYTIMES SPECIAL REPORTS FIRST UNEASINESS AT CRITICISM OF ACCORD IN WASHINGTON, IZVESTIA CAUTIONING THAT MUCH WORK REMAINS AND PLACING PRIMARY BLAME FOR CRITICISM ON ARMS MANUFACTURERS; AND TASS RENEWED ITS ATTACKS ON JACKSON. STORY REPORTS SOME WESTERN DIPLOMATS ARE CONCERNED OVER US WILLINGNESS TO GRANT NUMERICAL EQUALITY, WHEREAS US EMBASSY OFFICIALS CONTENT IMPORTANCE OF AGREEMENT IS THAT BREZHNEV-LED COALITION HAD SHOWN IT PLACED HIGH PRIORITY ON STABLE RELATIONS WITH WEST.

6A. FRIDAY BALTSUN PARKS REPORTS PROSPECTIVE ARMS AGREEMENT WILL LIKELY BE A CRITICAL FACTOR SHAPING DOMESTIC POLITICS OVER NEXT TWO YEARS; IT WILL BE A BREZHNEV SHOWPIECE AND A STRONG ARGUMENT FOR THOSE IN SOVIET LEADERSHIP WHO WANT TO SHIFT MORE RESOURCES FROM DEFENSE TO DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMY AND IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING STANDARDS.

7. GENEVA. FRIDAY NYTIMES GENEVA SPECIAL REPORTS SOVIET UNION HAS JOINED IN TENTATIVE AGREEMENT TO FACILITATE EMIGRATION TO HELP REUNITE FAMILIES SEPARATED BY FRONTIERS, WESTERN SOURCES SAYING THIS REPRESENTED AN UNCLASSIFIED

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IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD AT CSCE, BUT SOURCES NOTED THAT AGREEMENT IS COUCHED IN GENERAL TERMS THAT COME NOWHERE NEAR THE DETAILED PROVISIONS OF US-SOVIET AGREEMENT OF LAST OCTOBER. AUSTRIA IS CREDITED WITH PROMOTING

COMPROMISES, INCLUDING SPECIAL ATTENTION FOR THE AGED AND SICK WHO WISH TO JOIN FAMILY MEMBERS ABROAD.

7A. FRIDAY WASHPOST WORLDROUNDUP ITEM ON POLITBURO APPROVING SUMMIT ACTIONS INCLUDES STATEMENT WESTERN DIPLOMATS IN GENEVA SAID SOVIETS MADE AGREEMENT WHICH AMOUNTS TO MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH FOR CSCE. (END TEXT) INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 27 JUL 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AMERICAN PRESS SUMMARY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE263268
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PA/M:HSFOSTER:JC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D740347-0310
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741186/abbrzaeg.tel
Line Count: 288
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 NOV 2002 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE
TAGS: PINT, PARM, US, XG
To: MBFR VIENNA
GENEVA INFO LONDON
PARIS
ROME
BONN
NATO
USBERLIN

MOSCOW
TOKYO
CANBERRA
WELLINGTON

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005